

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on September 23, 2005 and the office action mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office March 22, 2006, the Examiner indicated that claim 2 was free of the art. Applicant has amended claim 1 to include limitations found in claim 2 and has cancelled claim 2. Accordingly, claim 1 contains limitations that are free of the art. Applicant has further drafted new claims, which include the limitation for removing all liquids from said crushed dry leaves to obtain a leaf extract wherein the step of removing comprises reducing said crushed dry leaves with heat. Applicant respectfully submits that the art cited by the Examiner does not teach or fairly suggest the method of reducing said crushed dry leaves with heat. The newly drafted claims contain patentable limitations.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the amendments made herein do not add new matter and that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request favorable reconsideration. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this communication, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Dated this 20 day of April, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



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